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R 200500Z NOV 74

FM FBIS PANAMA

TO RUTLAAA/FBIS WASHDC

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COPY TO FCS

PORTUGUESE LUSITANIA NEWS AGENCY CLOSED BY GOVERNMENT DECREE

C200500 MADRID EFE IN SPANISH 2315 GMT 19 NOV 74 C

((TEXT)) LISBON, 19 NOV--THE PORTUGUESE LUSITANIA NEWS AGENCY, DEDICATED PRIMARILY TO OVERSEAS INFORMATION SINCE ITS FOUNDING 30 THREE ZERO YEARS AGO, WAS CLOSED TODAY BY ORDER OF MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO VITOR ALVES, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF INFORMATION AFFAIRS.

THE DECISION, MADE WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MOZAMBIQUE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE ANGOLA JUNTA PRESIDENT, ALSO SUSPENDED FOUNDER AND AGENCY DIRECTOR LUIS LUPI.

THE ORDER SAYS THAT THE AGENCY "BELONGED TO AND SERVED ONLY THE COLONIALIST POSITION" OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME AND ITS EXISTENCE IS NO LONGER JUSTIFIED, "IF WE CONSIDER THAT THIS POSITION RUNS COUNTER TO NATIONAL AWARENESS AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS." 192315

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PORTUGAL - AGENCY

LISBON, NOV. 19 REUTER -- THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ORDERED THE PORTUGUESE NEWS AGENCY LUSITANIA TODAY TO CLOSE DOWN IMMEDIATELY ON THE GROUNDS THAT ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE COULD JEOPARDIZE THE DECOLONIZATION OF PORTUGAL'S OVERSEAS TERRITORIES.

AN ORDER SIGNED BY MAJOR VITOR ALVES, THE MINISTER WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRESS, SAID THE CONCEPT OF COLONIALISM WHICH INSPIRED THE AGENCY'S FOUNDATION IN 1944 HAD BEEN DISPELLED FROM THE NATIONAL CONSCIENCE.

AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA, THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED LUSITANIA SHOULD CEASE ITS ACTIVITIES IMMEDIATELY, THE ORDER SAID.

LUSITANIA DISTRIBUTED NEWS IN PORTUGAL ABOUT THE COUNTRY'S OVERSEAS TERRITORIES. IT WAS FOUNDED BY ORDER OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER MARCELLO CAETANO, THEN MINISTER FOR THE COLONIES AND NOW LIVING IN EXILE AFTER BEING OUSTED IN LAST APRIL'S COUP.

WITH PORTUGAL SET ON DECOLONISING ITS OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, THE CLOSURE OF LUSITANIA HAD BEEN GENERALLY EXPECTED IN RECENT WEEKS. ITS DIRECTOR, LUIS LUPI, LEFT FOR SPAIN AFTER THE APRIL COUP.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, THE GOVERNMENT NATIONALIZED THE OTHER PORTUGUESE NEWS AGENCY, ANI (NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY).

REUTER 2106

RTTUZYUW RUDDMKAB214 3168254-0000--RUTLAAA,

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FM FBIS LONDON

TO RUTLAAA/FBIS WASHDC

RUDDKFD/AMEMB LISBON

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LUSITANIA NEWS AGENCY SEEKS CLARIFICATION OF STATUS

L112305 LISBON DOMESTIC SERVICE IN IN PORTUGUESE 1900 GMT 11

NOV 74 L

COV 11-44

((TEXT)) DUE TO THE REPORTS PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS ON THE ILLEGAL STATUS OF THE NEWS AGENCY LUSITANIA, THE AGENCY'S WORKERS HELD A PLENARY SESSION AFTER WHICH THEY SENT A COMMUNIQUE TO THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATION ASKING HIM FOR CLARIFICATION AS TO THE AGENCY'S ACTUAL STATUS AND TO THE FUTURE OF THOSE WHO WORK IN IT, AND, BY IMPLICATION, OF THEIR FAMILIES. THE LUSITANIA, WORKERS FURTHER REQUEST THE APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOCIAL COMMUNICATION SECRETARIAT TO MANAGE THE AGENCY'S OPERATION.

CABLES REQUESTING CLARIFICATION AS TO THE NEWS AGENCY'S STATUS WERE ALSO SENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE EXECUTIVE OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS WILL MEET TOMORROW AT 1830 TO ASSESS THE

SITUATION. 111900 ZLSTL/CP 12/11/74

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PORTUGAL-AGENCY

LISBON, NOV. 8, REUTER -- THE PORTUGUESE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TODAY NATIONALIZED THE PRIVATELY-OWNED NEWS AGENCY A.N.I. (NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY) BY BUYING ALL ITS SHARES.

A.N.I. DISTRIBUTES NEWS FROM ABROAD IN PORTUGAL, AND ALSO SENDS NEWS ABOUT PORTUGAL TO THE OVERSEAS TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARIAT OF INFORMATION SAID LAST MONTH THE AGENCY HAD AGREED TO ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE IT, AND NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING AHEAD IN GOOD FAITH.

LUSITANIA, THE OTHER NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, IS ALSO DUE TO BE BOUGHT BY THE GOVERNMENT.

REUTER 1735

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RTTUZYUW RUADFBAB923 2651102-UUUU--RUTLAAA;

ZNR UUUUU ZZM ZYM

R 121040Z OCT 74

FM FBIS OKINAWA JAPAN

TO RUTLAAA/FBIS WASHDC

RUEBFGA/VOA WASHDC

RUDOMKA/FBIS LONDON ENGLAND

RULPSEL/FBIS PANAMA

RAYHYV/FOREIGN AFFAIRS CANBERRA

RUVAADA/FTD/NIJIR KNIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

RUMOPBA/FBIS BANGKOK

FBOW

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APP: PORTUGAL TRYING TO CREATE NATIONAL PRESS AGENCY

B121040 HONG KONG APP IN ENGLISH 1022 GMT 12 OCT 74 R

((TEXT)) LISBON, OCT 12 (AFP)--THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEGUN
NEGOTIATIONS TO ACQUIRE THE TWO PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES ANI
AND LUSITANIA AND CREATE A NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, A COMMUNIQUE
FROM THE SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATION ANNOUNCED TODAY.

IT SAID REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO AGENCIES HAD ALREADY
AGREED TO THE TRANSFER. NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED

BY PROFESSOR ARMANDO NOGUEIRA AND DR. FERNANDO DOLBRITO
ASSISTED BY A GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANT.

THE TWO AGENCIES WERE CLOSELY LINKED TO THE SALAZAR REGIME

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